

AGN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

APRIL 21, 2009

Bisphenol A (BPA) is a chemical used primarily in the production of polycarbonate plastics and epoxy resins. It is most commonly found in water and baby bottles and in food and infant formula cans. Since BPA is used in the manufacturing of everyday plastic and canned goods, human exposure to BPA is pervasive and unavoidable as the chemical leaches from containers into food and drink. A study by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) found detectable levels of BPA in 93% of adults and children tested. Studies suggest some concern for this human exposure to BPA, particularly for infants and children, because it disrupts the endocrine system which may lead to problems with brain development and behavior, early puberty, breast cancer and prostate cancer.

In response to the potentially harmful effects of BPA, some major manufacturers and retailers have already taken action to eliminate the use in their products. Furthermore, local government entities including San Francisco, Chicago and Suffolk County in New York, as well as the country of Canada, have taken steps to either ban BPA in consumer products or regulate BPA levels in food containers. Here in California, Senator Fran Pavley has introduced the Toxics-Free Babies and Toddlers Act (SB 797), which would prohibit the manufacture, sale or distribution of products

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designed for children ages 3 and younger that contain more than 0.1 parts per billion (ppb) of bisphenol A. In the weeks ahead, the State Senate will hold hearings on SB 797.

Los Angeles County should take a position in support of SB 797 in the interest of protecting the health and development of infants and children.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE** that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors send a five-signature letter in support of SB 797 (Pavley) to the Los Angeles County state legislative delegation, and instruct the County's legislative advocates in Sacramento to pursue the County's position on this bill.

CK:SB797 Bisphenol A Support